

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *NEOCLARKINELLA*  
REMA & NARENDRAN (HYMENOPTERA: BRACONIDAE) FROM INDIA<sup>1</sup>

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A new species of the genus *Neoclarkinella* Rema & Narendran namely *N. punctata* Ahmad sp. nov. is described from India.

**Key words:** Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Microgastrinae, *Neoclarkinella*, new species, India

### INTRODUCTION

The genus *Neoclarkinella* was erected by Rema and Narendran (1996) to accommodate *N. nilamburensis* as its type species. It can be easily distinguished from its closely related genus *Clarkinella* in having large and triangular scutellar lunule, fore wing without areolet, transverse carinae of propodeum not forming a fork on either side of spiracle and hypopygium striate along median line. The genus is known only from its type species. In the present work, a new species is described from India.

**Abbreviations used:** OOL - ocello-ocular line (distance from outer edge of lateral ocellus to compound eye); POL - post-ocellar line (distance between inner edges of two lateral ocelli); AOL - anterior-ocellar line (distance between inner edges of anterior and lateral ocellus), ZDAMU- Zoology Department, Aligarh Muslim University.

*Neoclarkinella punctata* sp. nov.

(Figs 1-2)

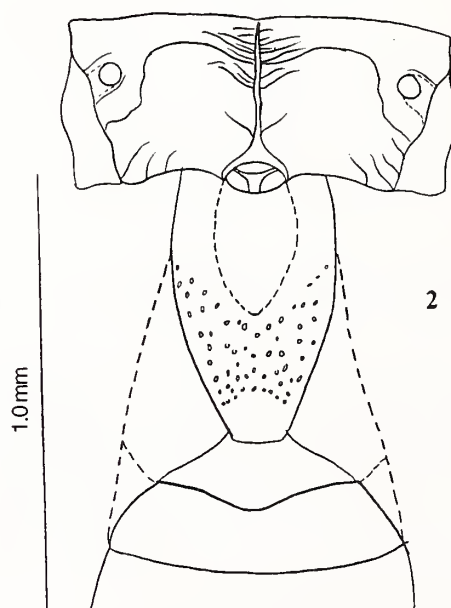
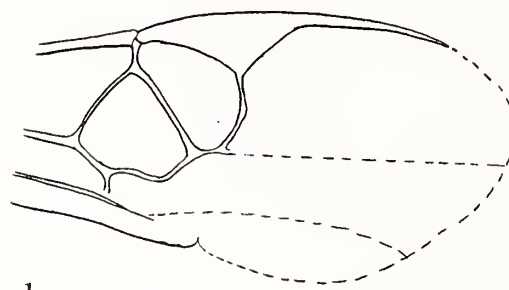
**Material Examined: Holotype:** ♀, INDIA: Uttar Pradesh, Etawah; 30.iv.2002, Coll. M. Shamim, deposited in the collections of ZDAMU (Catalogue No. HB. 1029); **Paratypes:** 7 ♀ ♀, 3 ♂ ♂, data same as holotype.

### Description

**Female:** Length 2.6 mm; fore wing length 3.0 mm. Body black except for the following: T1, labrum, mandible, palpi, fore legs, mid legs, hind legs; scape beyond extreme apex and basal depressed area of T1 yellowish; antennae and posterior half of clypeus testaceous, wings hyaline, pterostigma and venation brown.

**Head:** In anterior view oval in shape; clypeus indistinctly punctate; malar space about as long as basal width of

mandible; face about as long as wide, indistinctly punctate with hairs, with a faint median longitudinal node; frons concave, smooth and shiny; occiput smooth; temple and



Figs 1-2: *Neoclarkinella punctata* sp. nov. ♀  
1. Fore wing 2. Propodeum, T1 and T2

vertex indistinctly punctate; OOL 0.75x as long as POL; POL 3.5x as long as AOL; antennae longer than the body length.

**Mesosoma:** About 2x longer than wide; mesoscutum depressed posteriorly at imaginary course of notauli, strongly punctate with hairs and punctures become rather sparse posteriorly; scutellum rather sparsely punctate with hairs; mesopleuron medio-posteriorly smooth, rest of the area coarsely punctate; propodeum covered with white pilosity, surface dull with a strong mid longitudinal carina and transverse carina at basal one-third, remaining parts with few cranulae. Fore wing with densely and evenly pilosity in whole; pterostigma 3.3x longer than wide; R1 1.3x as long as pterostigma; r 1.2x as long as r-m, and 1.1x as long as width of pterostigma, r 1.2x as long as m-cu; 2RS 1.2x as long as r. Hind wing with vannal lobe slightly convex and sparsely hairy, 2r-m present. Hind coxae large, virtually smooth with an indistinct punctation; hind tibia 1.1x longer than hind femur.

**Metasoma:** T1 3.8x as long as wide and strongly tapered apically, basal half with broad U-shaped depressed area and apical half punctate with hairs; T2 subtriangular, smooth

and posterior margin convex; hypopygium about half as long as metasoma, desclerotized, folded and striate medially; ovipositor sheaths 0.61x as long as hind tibia, slender, pointed at apex, and hairy all along length.

**Male:** Same as female except length (2.45 mm).

**Host:** Unknown

**Distribution:** INDIA: Uttar Pradesh.

**Etymology:** The specific name is derived from Latin, and refers to the punctate sculpture of T1.

**Remarks:** *Neoclarkinella punctata* sp. nov. closely resembles the only known species of *Neoclarkinella* – *N. nilamburensis* (Sumodan & Narendran), but differs in having T1 punctate apically (T1 smooth apically in *N. nilamburensis*) and antennae testaceous (antennae black in *N. nilamburensis*).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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#### REFERENCE

REMA, C.G. & T.C. NARENDRAN (1996): A remarkable new genus of Braconidae (Hymenoptera) from India. *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 93: 264-267.

